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(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

James A. Macove

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For: RAZOR HAVING SEPARATE BLADE
GROUPS FOR SHAVING AND
TRIMMING/SCULPTING

Examiner: Jason D. Prone

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

Before substantive examination on the merits, please amend the claims as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A razor system for shaving facial and body hair, comprising:
a handle, and
a razor cartridge, wherein the razor cartridge comprises a primary group of blades and a second group of blades, such that the primary group of blades comprises a first common plane and the second group of blades comprises a second working plane, wherein the first common plane and the second working plane are directionally-opposed.
2. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the primary group of blades comprises one or more strip-like razor blades.
3. (Original) The razor system according to claim 2, wherein the strip-like razor blades are parallel.
4. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades comprises two or more strip-like razor blades.
5. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades comprises a single strip-like razor blade.
6. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades comprises two short razor blade strips positioned at opposing ends of the second working plane of the razor cartridge.
7. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades comprises a single elongated V-shaped razor blade strip.
8. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades comprises a single elongated convex-shaped razor blade strip.

9. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades comprises a single razor blade strip substantially centered in the second working plane.

10. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the first common plane further comprises a shaving-aid strip.

11. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the first common plane hither comprises skin-engaging microfins.

12. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the handle and razor cartridge are attached such that the razor cartridge is removable from the handle.

13. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the handle and razor cartridge are attached via pivot pins.

14. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the system is disposable.

15. (Original) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades is located on a top edge or a top-back edge of the razor cartridge.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) A razor cartridge for use with a handle for providing both broad area shaving and trim shaving blade groups within a single cartridge, comprising:

a razor cartridge defining a handle axis;

a first blade group provided on the razor cartridge and having a plurality of razor blades configured to provide broad area shaving in a first working plane, the first working plane intersecting the handle axis; and

a second blade group provided on the razor cartridge and having at least one razor blade configured to provide trim shaving in a second working plane, the second working plane intersecting the handle axis;

wherein the first and second working planes intersect each other so as to define a line of intersection that is substantially transverse to the handle axis.

22. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein the blades in the first blade group are parallel to each other.

23. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein the blades in the first blade group are provided at an acute angle to the first working plane in a direction of intended shaving.

24. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein the line of intersection is orthogonal to the handle axis.

25. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein a handle is attached to the razor cartridge, at least a portion of the handle extending along the handle axis.

26. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 25, wherein the first and second working planes are configured to allow conversion by a user of the razor cartridge from broad area shaving to trim shaving by rotating the handle 180 degrees about the handle axis.

27. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 25, wherein at least a portion of the handle is symmetric to facilitate handling of the handle for either broad area shaving or trim shaving.

28. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein the first and second working planes intersect at an angle greater than 0 degrees and less than about 150 degrees.

29. (Original) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein the first and second working planes intersect at an angle between about 75 degrees and 135 degrees.

30. (Previously Presented) The razor cartridge of claim 25, wherein the handle is elongated and has a curve at an end attached to the razor cartridge, the curve being concave on the same side as the first blade group.

31. (Previously Presented) The razor cartridge of claim 21, wherein the secondary blade group has a leading-edge blade guard having a thin profile to allow the distance between the cutting blade and the individual's skin to be optimally minimized to facilitate shaving in confined hard-to-reach areas of the face.

32. (Previously Presented) The razor cartridge of claim 31, wherein the secondary blade group has a single razor blade.

33. (Previously Presented) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the primary group of blades includes a plurality of strip-like razor blades.

34. (Previously Presented) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the handle has a curve at an end of the handle secured to the razor cartridge, the curve being concave on the same side as the primary blades.

35. (Previously Presented) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the handle and first common plane and second working plane are configured so that a user may convert the razor cartridge from shaving with the first group of blades to shaving with the second group of blades by rotating the handle 180 degrees about a longitudinal axis of the handle.

36. (Previously Presented) The razor system according to claim 1, wherein the second group of blades includes a leading-edge blade guard having a thin profile to allow the

distance between the cutting blade and the individual's skin to be optimally minimized to facilitate shaving in confined hard-to-reach areas of the face.

37. (Previously Presented) A razor system for providing both broad area shaving and trim shaving blade groups within a single cartridge, comprising:

an elongate handle defining a handle axis; and

a razor cartridge disposed on the handle and having:

a first blade group having a plurality of razor blades configured to provide broad area shaving in a first working plane, the first working plane intersecting the handle axis; and

a second blade group having at least one razor blade configured to provide trim shaving in a second working plane, the second working plane intersecting the handle axis;

wherein the first and second working planes intersect each other so as to define a line of intersection that is substantially transverse to the handle axis; and

wherein the handle has a curve at an end attached to the razor cartridge, the curve being concave on the same side as the first blade group.

38. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 37, wherein the handle and the first and second working planes are configured to allow conversion by a user of the razor cartridge from broad area shaving to trim shaving by rotating the handle 180 degrees about the handle axis.

39. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 38, wherein at least a portion of the handle is symmetric to facilitate handling of the handle for either broad area shaving or trim shaving.

40. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 37, wherein the first and second working planes intersect at an angle between about 75 degrees and 135 degrees.

41. (Previously Presented) A razor system for providing both broad area shaving and trim shaving blade groups within a single cartridge, comprising:

an elongate handle defining a handle axis; and

a razor cartridge disposed on the handle and having:

a first blade group having a plurality of razor blades configured to provide broad area shaving in a first working plane, the first working plane intersecting the handle axis; and

a second blade group having at least one razor blade configured to provide trim shaving in a second working plane, the second working plane intersecting the handle axis;

wherein the first and second working planes intersect each other so as to define a line of intersection that is substantially transverse to the handle axis and the first and second working planes intersect at an angle between about 75 degrees and 135 degrees.

42. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 41, wherein the handle and the first and second working planes are configured to allow conversion by a user of the razor cartridge from broad area shaving to trim shaving by rotating the handle 180 degrees about the handle axis.

43. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 42, wherein at least a portion of the handle is symmetric to facilitate handling of the handle for either broad area shaving or trim shaving.

44. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 43, wherein the handle has a curve at an end attached to the razor cartridge, the curve being concave on the same side as the first blade group.

45. (Previously Presented) The razor system of claim 41, wherein the second group of blades includes a leading-edge blade guard having a thin profile to allow the distance between the cutting blade and the individual's skin to be optimally minimized to facilitate shaving in confined hard-to-reach areas of the face.

REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement dated January 25, 2006, the Examiner required election of one of the following species of the invention:

- Species A: Figs. 1-5
- Species B: Fig. 6
- Species C: Fig. 7
- Species D: Fig. 8
- Species E: Fig. 9

The Examiner further notes that some claims may be generic.

For the purpose of responding to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Species A, drawn to Figs. 1 to 5, with traverse.

Applicant submits that claims 1 to 5, 10 to 15, and 21 to 45 are drawn to the elected species, and claims 6 to 9 are drawn to the non-elected species. As each of claims 6 to 9 is dependent from claim 1, Applicant submits that upon the allowance of claim 1, claims 6 to 9 can be considered pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that an interview would facilitate the resolution of any outstanding issues, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned.

Dated: April 25, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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